

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 INSE-00 VO-03 L-02 SCA-01 RSC-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CVIS, US, GT, HO, ES

SUBJECT: SPECIAL FLIGHTS TO RETURN ALIENS DETAINED US
TO COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

1. US IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE CONSIDERING
CONTRACTING WITH US COMMERCIAL AIR CARRIER TO PERFORM TWO
TO THREE CHARTER FLIGHTS WEEKLY TO GUATEMALA, HONDURAS,
AND EL SALVADOR WITH MEDIUM-SIZED (40 PASSENGER) AIRCRAFT
TO RETURN ALIENS IN US IN VIOLATION OF US IMMIGRATION
LAWS TO RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN. INS BELIEVES
ARRANGEMENT COULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE PERIOD OF DETEN-
TION OF SUCH PERSONS IN US AND POINTS OUT THAT INS SOME-
TIMES HAS TO CONTRACT WITH STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES
FOR DETENTION SERVICES WITH RESULT THAT SOME OF THESE
ALIENS, THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF WHOM DO NOT HAVE
CRIMINAL RECORDS, ARE SOMETIMES HOUSED IN JAILS AND
SIMILAR FACILITIES.

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2. IF POSTS PERCEIVE NO OBJECTION INS WOULD LIKE TO

INITIATE FLIGHTS ASAP. PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOR US AIR CARRIER TO SUBMIT APPLICATION TO EACH COUNTRY'S CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY FOR PERMISSION OPERATE FLIGHTS.

3. FOR GUATEMALA: SUGGEST YOU DO NOT APPROACH GOG ON QUESTION OF INS CHARTER FLIGHTS UNTIL CURRENT CIVIL AVIATION TALKS SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED. WHILE THIS SEPARATE AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED MATTER, GOG AND ANZUETO IN PARTICULAR,

WOULD PROBABLY NOT HESITATE TO USE NEED FOR GOG APPROVAL OF CHARTER FLIGHTS IN CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS. IN MEANTIME, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS.

4. FOR TEGUCIGALPA, SAN SALVADOR: APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS, CONCURRENCE INS PROPOSAL.

5. IF HONDURAN AND SALVADORAN APPROVAL CAN BE SECURED, INS WOULD CONSIDER INITIATING FLIGHTS TO THOSE TWO COUNTRIES, AND ADDING GUATEMALA TO ITINERARY LATER. MAW

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